

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for handling passenger baggage, comprising:
  - obtaining a passenger identifier for a passenger associated with a ticket to a destination arrival facility;
  - obtaining passenger baggage for carriage to said destination in at least one passenger baggage collection facility before said passenger's departure, said passenger baggage identified by said passenger identifier;
  - obtaining a destination address [[at]] of said destination to which said passenger baggage is to be delivered;
  - providing an optimal shipping plan for transporting said baggage to said destination address; and
  - delivering said passenger baggage to said destination address after said passenger has departed.

2. (NEW) In a baggage handling system, a method comprising:

obtaining passenger travel information comprising a passenger identifier associated with a passenger;

obtaining baggage delivery information for baggage associated with said passenger;

providing an optimal shipping plan for transporting said baggage from a shipping location to a destination address using said baggage delivery information; and

maintaining delivery information about delivery of said baggage to said destination address.

3. (NEW) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

performing an electronic purchase of a travel ticket from which said passenger travel information is obtained.

4. (NEW) The method of claim 3, wherein performing said electronic purchase of said travel ticket comprises printing a boarding document comprising a bar code for identifying said travel information.

5. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining said passenger travel information comprises:

said passenger registering with a system for managing information.

6. (NEW) The method of claim 5, wherein said passenger registering comprises:

providing a plurality of personal information associated with said passenger.

7. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining said passenger travel information comprises:

preparing at least one travel record for said passenger.

8. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining said passenger travel information comprises:

storing said passenger travel information in a data collection system.

9. (NEW) The method of claim 8, wherein storing said passenger travel information comprises:

providing said passenger with access to said passenger travel information.

10. (NEW) The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
recording an identity of a person accessing said travel information.
11. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining said baggage delivery information comprises:  
providing said passenger travel information to a baggage collection center prior to a travel departure date.
12. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining said baggage delivery information comprises:  
obtaining baggage identification information.
13. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining said baggage delivery information comprises:  
fulfilling customs requirements if said travel information indicates international travel.
14. (NEW) The method of claim 13, wherein fulfilling said customs requirements comprises:  
preparing one or more customs declarations.

15. (NEW) The method of claim 13, wherein fulfilling said customs requirements comprises:

providing a payment of customs fees.

16. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining said baggage delivery information comprises:

paying a charge for additional baggage weight.

17. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein providing said optimal shipping plan for transporting said baggage comprises:

preparing shipping routing instructions.

18. (NEW) The method of claim 17, wherein preparing said shipping routing instructions comprises:

preparing shipping labels and tags to identify said baggage.

19. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein providing said optimal shipping plan comprises:

consolidating a plurality of baggage at at least one baggage collection center.

20. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein providing said optimal shipping plan comprises:

sorting a plurality of baggage for shipment using said passenger travel information from a plurality of passengers.

21. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein providing said optimal shipping plan comprises:

electronically communicating with at least one cargo carrier.

22. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein maintaining said delivery information comprises:

providing a status information update for said baggage during shipping.

23. (NEW) The method of claim 22, wherein providing said status update for said baggage comprises:

providing said passenger with access to said status information update.

24. (NEW) The method of claim 2, wherein maintaining said delivery information comprises:

recording destination delivery information.

25. (NEW) A system for managing baggage delivery information comprising:

a server system for collecting travel information associated with a passenger, and baggage shipping information associated with baggage of said passenger;

a plurality of client systems for accessing said travel information and said baggage shipping information using a network connection with said server system; and

an optimization system for determining an optimal shipment mode for delivering said baggage.

26. (NEW) The system of claim 25, wherein said server system comprises a database system for collecting and storing said travel information.

27. (NEW) The system of claim 26, wherein said server system is enabled to issue a plurality of barcodes to identify said passenger, said travel information and said baggage shipping information.

28. (NEW) The system of claim 27, wherein said plurality of barcodes further comprise transport data pertinent to each of one or more transport segments.

29. (NEW) The system of claim 25, wherein said server system comprises a scanner for authenticating said passenger and said baggage.

30. (NEW) The system of claim 25, wherein said optimization system is configured to provide necessary shipment routing instructions.

31. (NEW) The system of claim 25, wherein said server system is configured to provide shipping labels and tags.

32. (NEW) The system of claim 25, wherein said plurality of client systems are enabled for purchasing a travel ticket.

33. (NEW) The system of claim 32, wherein said plurality of client systems are configured to print at least one travel ticket.

34. (NEW) The system of claim 32, wherein said plurality of client systems comprises a plurality of client systems enabled for printing at least one boarding pass.